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GENEVA FOR DISDEL

SUBJECT: COMMONS DEBATE ON ABM: STATEMENTS BY TRUDEAU

1. HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATED ABM DECISION FOR MORE THAN FOUR HOURS EVENING OF 19TH. PRIMIN TRUDEAU, EXTAFFMIN SHARP, AND DEFMIN CADIEUX CARRIED BALL FOR GOVT. NDP LEADER DOUGLAS LED OFF DEBATE AND WAS PRINCIPAL GADFLY, BUT PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE LEADER STANFIELD, AIDED BY FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN FAIRWEATHER, WAS ACTIVE ALSO. CREDITISTES MADE MINOR IMPRINT.

2. THRUST OF DOUGLAS ATTACK WAS ALLEGED LACK OF CONSULTATION BY US. DOUGLAS ASKED WHETHER CONSULTATIONS BEGAN ON SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM AND WHETHER THEY WERE GOING ON NOW. CRITICIZED PRIMIN FOR NOT HAVING DECIDED IF SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM MEANS ESCALATION AFTER YEARS OF DISCUSSION OF ABM QUESTION. DOUGLAS ASKED IF DISCUSSIONS NOW GOING ON WITH REGARD TO US REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO FIRE ABM MISSILES OVER CANADA. DOUGLAS ENDED BY EXPRESSING HOPE PRIMIN WOULD POINT OUT TO PRESIDENT DANGER OF ABM SYSTEM TRIGGERING SERIOUS ARMS RACE WITHOUT AT SAME TIME PROVIDING SECURITY FOR US OR CANADA.

3. TRUDEAU TOOK LINE THAT HEART OF MATTER IS QUESTION OF ENSURING PROTECTION OF ALL HUMANITY AS WELL AS CANADA. SAID FIRST CONSIDERATION IS STABILITY OF STRATEGIC BALANCE. TRUDEAU SAID CREDIBILITY OF DETERRENT

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DETERMINES STABILITY; AND ARGUED THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO BE CERTAIN THAT OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES OF EITHER SIDE NOT BE UPSET PENDING PROGRESS IN DISARMAMENT TALKS.

4. TRUDEAU SAID IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FOR CANADA TO SAY US GUILTY OF ESCALATION AND CONDEMN US OUT OF HAND. GOC NOT IN POSITION OF CONDEMNING BUT OF QUESTIONING PRIOR TO MAKING UP MIND. TRUDEAU ADDED THAT IF GOC ASSESSMENT IS THAT US DECISION CONTRIBUTES TO ESCALATION, GOC WILL CONDEMN IT. ON OTHER HAND IF GOC DECIDES US DECISION WAS CORRECT ONE, THEN CANADA MUST DECIDE IF IT WILL PARTICIPATE. TRUDEAU WENT ON TO SAY THAT GOC HAS BEEN INFORMED TO IMPRESSIVE DEGREE OF WHAT US HAS BEEN DOING ON ABM SYSTEM, BUT GOC DOES NOT HAVE ALL INFORMATION NEEDED, NOR HAS IT BEEN IN POSITION TO VETO US DECISION.

5. TRUDEAU SAID IF HOUSE DECIDES CANADA SHOULD HAVE SOME SAY IN ABM SYSTEM (DEPLOYMENT, FIRING DOCTRINE), CANADA SHOULD PARTICIPATE, BUT DECISION MUST FIRST BE MADE THAT ABM SYSTEM NECESSARY. PRIMIN ENDED STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE BARBARA WARD'S ANALOGY OF ALL BEING TOGETHER ON SPACESHIP, SAYING HE PLANS TO TALK TO PRESIDENT ABOUT RULES OF SURVIVAL.

6. STATEMENTS BY CADIEUX, SHARP AND PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE LEADER STANFIELD FOLLOW SEPTEL.

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